



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
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Medical Director

September 11, 2015

TO: Each Supervisor
FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W. *Robin Kay for*
Director
SUBJECT: **MENTAL HEALTH PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PLANS FOR
YOUTH LEAVING PROBATION CAMPS (ITEM NO 38, BOARD
MEETING OF JULY 7, 2015)**

During the July 7, 2015, meeting of your Board, the Director of Mental Health was requested to work with local school districts and the Probation Camps to offer mental health services and develop a prevention and treatment plan for youth leaving Probation Camps. This memorandum will provide you with information regarding the Probation Aftercare Program.

Background

The Los Angeles County Probation Aftercare Program was developed by an interdepartmental workgroup, including Probation, Department of Mental Health (DMH), Juvenile Court Mental Health Services (JCHS), Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), Department of Public and Social Services (DPSS) and the Chief Executive Office (CEO). The purpose of the Probation Aftercare Program is to plan and provide for a seamless transition from the Probation Camps back to the youth's home and school. The aftercare processes and practices which were developed and implemented by this workgroup have been in place for several years and are more specifically described in the "Probation Aftercare – Reference Guide" (Attachment).

The goal of the Probation Aftercare Program is to significantly reduce recidivism and to substantially increase service integration. Individualized case planning, connection to community-based services, post-release care management, and increased family engagement occur for all youth. The Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meetings are the foundation of the Aftercare Program. A Transition MDT occurs 45-60 days prior to the youth's release from camp. Participants in the Transition MDT include the youth, his or her parent/caregiver (when available either in person or via video conference), the Camp Deputy Probation Officer (DPO), the Aftercare DPO (in person or via teleconference), DMH, JCHS, and LACOE. The Aftercare Case Plan developed in the MDT follows the youth as she/he returns to the community.

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In order to sustain the Probation Aftercare Program, quarterly performance measurement was put in place including the Aftercare Data Summary (Attachment). In addition, an Aftercare Success Team was established including representatives from each department. This group provides ongoing training, coaching, and mentoring on the Aftercare Program and meets quarterly to review and refine the process.

You may contact me for additional information, or your staff may contact Robin Kay, Ph.D., Chief Deputy Director. Dr. Kay can be reached at (213) 738-4108.

MJS:RK
KS:tld

Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Chief Executive Office
Juvenile Court Mental Health Services
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Department of Public Social Services
Probation Department